CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - 0. S. GEFICIALS CHEX 25X1A CONFIDENCE CIA-ROP82-00457R0080d COUNTRY Albania DATE DISTR. 17 OCT 50 SUBJECT Coast Defense Command: Saseno Island-Karaburun NO. OF PAGES 3 Military Units 25X1A PLACE NO. OF ENCLS. **ACQUIRED** DATE OF SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X REPORT NO. The Coast Defens: Command, based in Durres, is in charge of defending the Albanian coast from Shengin to Sarande. Informant believes that this Command is directly under the Albanian Army General Staff. Artillery raits of the Coast Defense Command are located at the following places: Stangjin a. 1 Durres Saseno Island and Karaburun Vlone: informant believes that the artillery unit at Vlone may belong to the Independent Infantry Brigade based in Vlone. The Coast Defense Command also includes infantry units at Vlone and Durres, which are charged with defending the coast. These units belong either to the People's Security Division or to the Independent Brigade of Vlone. The Saseno Island-Karaburun artillery unit is under the command of Captain 2nd Class Teki Busi from Korce. The second in command is a first lieutenant. The political commissar is 2nd Lt. Hadji Aidini from Pogradec. The commander of 1 Battery is 2nd Lt. Kiazim Styla from Korce and the political commissar is Hairıla Hasan from Kurvelesh. The Saseno-Karaburun artillery unit consists of ten batteries as follows: 1 Battery 1 Battery is anti-aircraft, consisting of 76.2 mm. guns located on Height 308. These guns fire a shell weighing 17.5 kilograms; the length of the barrel is A.40 meters, the useful range 11 kilometers with a maximum range of 17 kilometers. The hattery consists of four 76.2 mm. Czechoslovak Skoda guns, 1939 (L/55) (sic). These guns are set in a circular uncovered gun position with a stone revetment. The cannon is placed on a concrete slab 1 meter thick. Underneeth this slab is a magazine for armunition 7 meters high CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY STATE; NAVY # NSRB DISTRIBUTION ARMY # AIR CONFIDENTIAL Decument No. No Change In Class. Declassified Class. Changed To: TS Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA 3**&**-1**9**04|57R00600006000

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE ACENCY

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and 5 x 5 meters square, holding 15,000 shells for each cannon. The cannon are set 10 to 12 meters from each other.\*

- Each 76.2 mm. gun is manned by eight gunners as follows: chief gunner, first aimer (direction), second aimer (elevation), breech handler, loader, shell handler, gun handler (for large movements), and controller of speed of target (for fixed sighting mechanism on the cannon).
- (3) 1 Battery also has 3 pieces of light anti-aircraft artillery. These guns, of Italian manufacture, have a diameter of 20 mm. and are manned by 3 gunners. They are located near the positions of the other larger cannon, and are set in circular uncovered gun positions of stone with a magazine underneath which holds about 1,000 shells for each gun. Strict orders have been issued to use these shells sparingly (sic).
- (A) There is a telephone connection between the command of the battery, which remains in its circular uncovered observation post (sic), and the command of the unit which is located at site L. 783-545.\*\*

## 2 Battery

- 2 Battery has the same composition as 1 Battery and is located on Height 333.
- (2) Near this position is the central observation rost of the unit.

#### 3 Battery c.

- (1) 3 Pattery includes 4 heavy cannon of 150 mm. of Czechoslovak 1938 manufacture. The shell weighs 44 kilograms; length of the barrel is 2.40 meters. This battery is located on a point of land L. 782-523 at a distance of 150 meters from the sea.
- (2) The cannon are set within stone gun positions which are not covered and which allow the gun to be fired in any direction. The ammunition magazine, holding 18,000 shells for each gun, is located underneath the fun position. Each gun position is approximately 30 meters from the next.
- (3) Near the positions of these cannon are 3 anti-aircraft guns of 20 mm. diameter. These are intended to give anti-aircreft protection to the heavy cannon; they also fire over the sea.

#### d. 4 Battery

- (1) 4 Battery includes four 37.2 mm. anti-tank guns which fire a shell weighing 8.5 kilograms.
- (2) This battery is located at point L. 776-567 on the north side of the island.

### 5 Battery and 6 Battery

- 5 and 6 Battery have a total strength of 250 men. Actually they are infantry units using heavy and light machine gurs, including heavy Italian Breda and Soviet Maxim machine guns and German light machine guns.
- These units are stationed on the shore of the island, particularly on the west side.
- ſ. 7 Battery is a headquarters battery located within the position of the Command. \*\*\*

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- g. Sattery is located on Karaburun at L. 79-46 and has four 76.2 mm. anti-aircraft guns and three 20 mm. anti-aircraft guns.
- b. 9 Battery is located at L. 82-42 and has four 76.2 mm. anti-aircraft guns and three 20 mm. anti-aircraft guns.
- i. 10 Battery is located at Height 733 (Iaka) (sic) and has four heavy cannon of 100 rm. and three 20 rm. anti-aircraft guns.
- 5. Informant reported that there are observation posts along the shore, but that he did not know their position or to what unit they belong.
- 6. A total of 600 men are stationed on Saseno Island.
- 7. Two or three Soviet officers, regularly stationed at Vlone, sometimes visit Saseno Island and inspect the troops and fortifications. Occasionally other Soviet officers come from Tirana.
- Informant never saw any submarines at Saseno Island and states that there
  are none.
- Informant stated that there are no searchlights or direction finders using sound on Saseno Island or on Karaburun. There are six tractors on the fisland, three motor vehicles and one mule for each battory (sic).
- 10. The old worehouses on Saseno Island built by the Italians are still in use. There is a central underground ammunition magazine and storehouse for other material at L. 780-543.
- 11. A land mine field laid by the Yugoslavs is located along the coast and around the island. There are some corridors through this field used by the Albanian troops.
- 22. Informant states that there are no other harbor fortifications of (x) gume positions on Saseno and Karaburun.
- 13. Communication between Saseno Island and the garrison of Karaburun is made by two motorboats and a coast patrol boat. Informant reported that there are no other craft, even at Vione.
- 14. At Sasero there is an infirmary with six beds. There is no physician, but a head murse and another nurse.
- 15. At Vlone there is a military hospital in a one-story building with approximately 100 beds. Attached to the hospital are 3 army doctors, a captain, and a first and second lieutenant.

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Comment: It is doubtful that the storage space described here would hold more than a maximum of 7,000 shells and that the spacing of 12 meters between each cannon would be sufficient.

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Convent: We are unable to identify the map series to which these and the following grid coordinates refer.

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Comment: See paragraph 4, a, (4) above.

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